

# Pike County Health Department

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Across Illinois

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ***Update Potential Food Borne Outbreak***

As of November 16, 2015, more than 90 persons who drank apple cider during the Pike County Fall Color Drive have been interviewed related to gastrointestinal illnesses which may be due to contaminated cider sold during the Color Drive. Laboratory reports which are expected to confirm the source of illnesses and the exact organism involved are still pending, but expected this week.

Pike County Fall Color Drive was held on the weekend of October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in Pike County, Illinois. Ill persons range in age from less than one year to 89 years old. While the exact type of germ causing the illness is still being confirmed, health care providers are encouraged to test for *E. Coli* and *Cryptosporidium*.

If you attended the Color Drive or consumed apple cider purchased from vendors at the Color Drive and feel that you have these symptoms, contact your health care provider. **If you have apple cider that was purchased during the event that is fresh or frozen for future use, DO NOT DRINK IT.** Contact your local health department so that the cider can be tested. Pike County Health Department: 217.285.4407 Adams County Health Department: 217.222.8440.

Health officials who identify cases with this exposure history are asked to contact the IDPH Communicable Disease Control Section at 217.782.2016 or email [justin.albertson@illinois.gov](mailto:justin.albertson@illinois.gov)

The online IDPH survey which was posted last week was removed after several days of no further online surveys completed.

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